

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
ATLANTA DIVISION

IN RE: PARAGARD PRODUCTS
LIABILITY LITIGATION

: MDL DOCKET NO. 2974

:

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This document relates to:

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1:20-md-02974-LMM

Jasmine Whittington

:

:

vs.

:

Civil Action No.:

:

TEVA Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.;
TEVA Women's Health LLC;
TEVA Branded Pharmaceutical
Products R&D, Inc.;
The Cooper Companies, Inc.;
CooperSurgical, Inc.

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SHORT FORM COMPLAINT

Come(s) now the Plaintiff(s) named below, and for her/their Complaint against the Defendant(s) named below, incorporate(s) the Second Amended Master Personal Injury Complaint (Doc. No. 79), in MDL No. 2974 by reference. Plaintiff(s) further plead(s) as follows:

1. Name of Plaintiff placed with Paragard: Jasmine Whittington

2. Name of Plaintiff's Spouse (if a party to the case): N/A

3. If case is brought in a representative capacity, Name of Other Plaintiff and capacity (i.e., administrator, executor, guardian, conservator):

N/A

4. State of Residence of each Plaintiff (including any Plaintiff in a representative capacity) at time of filing of Plaintiff's original complaint:

Wisconsin

5. State of Residence of each Plaintiff at the time of Paragard placement:

Wisconsin

6. State of Residence of each Plaintiff at the time of Paragard removal:

Wisconsin

7. District Court and Division in which personal jurisdiction and venue would be proper:

United States District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin

8. Defendants. (Check one or more of the following five (5) Defendants against whom Plaintiff's Complaint is made. The following five (5) Defendants are the only defendants against whom a Short Form Complaint may be filed. No other entity may be added as a defendant in a Short Form Complaint.):

- ☒ A. Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.
- ☒ B. Teva Women's Health, LLC
- ☒ C. Teva Branded Pharmaceutical Products R&D, Inc.
- ☒ D. The Cooper Companies, Inc.
- ☒ E. CooperSurgical, Inc.

9. Basis of Jurisdiction

- ☒ Diversity of Citizenship (28 U.S.C. § 1332(a))
 - ☐ Other (if Other, identify below):
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10.

Date(s) Plaintiff had Paragard placed	Placing Physician(s) or other Health Care Provider (include City and State)	Date Plaintiff's Paragard was Removed (MM/DD/YYYY) * *If multiple removal(s) or attempted removal procedures, list date of each separately.	Removal Physician(s) or other Health Care Provider (include City and State)
10/23/2012	MLK Heritage Health Center, Milwaukee, WI	12/22/2020	Aurora Health Center, Milwaukee, WI Ann Cordell, MD
		02/01/2021	Aurora Health Center, Milwaukee, WI Ann Cornell, MD

11. Plaintiff alleges breakage (other than thread or string breakage) of her Paragard upon removal.

☒ Yes

☐ No

12. Brief statement of injury(ies) Plaintiff is claiming:

Unnecessary surgical procedure, pain and suffering

Plaintiff reserves her right to allege additional injuries and complications specific to her.

13. Product Identification:

- a. Lot Number of Paragard placed in Plaintiff (if now known):

Unknown

- b. Did you obtain your Paragard from anyone other than the HealthCare Provider who placed your Paragard:

☐ Yes

☒ No

14. Counts in the Master Complaint brought by Plaintiff(s):

☒ Count I – Strict Liability / Design Defect

☒ Count II – Strict Liability / Failure to Warn

☒ Count III – Strict Liability / Manufacturing Defect

☒ Count IV – Negligence

☒ Count V – Negligence / Design and Manufacturing Defect

- ☒ Count VI – Negligence / Failure to Warn
- ☒ Count VII – Fraud & Deceit
- ☒ Count VIII – Fraud by Omission
- ☒ Count IX – Negligent Misrepresentation
- ☒ Count X – Breach of Express Warranty
- ☒ Count XI – Breach of Implied Warranty
- ☒ Count XII – Violation of Consumer Protection Laws
- ☒ Count XIII – Gross Negligence
- ☒ Count XIV – Unjust Enrichment
- ☒ Count XV – Punitive Damages
- ☐ Count XVI – Loss of Consortium

☐ Other Count(s) (Please state factual and legal basis for other claims not included in the Master Complaint below):

15. “Tolling/Fraudulent Concealment” allegations:

a. Is Plaintiff alleging “Tolling/Fraudulent Concealment”?

☒ Yes

☐ No

b. If Plaintiff is alleging “tolling/fraudulent concealment” beyond the facts alleged in the Master Complaint, please state the facts and legal basis applicable to the Plaintiff in support of those allegations below:

N/A

16. Count VII (Fraud & Deceit) and Count VIII (Fraud by Omission) allegations:

a. Is Plaintiff bringing a claim under Count VII (Fraud & Deceit), Count VIII (Fraud by Omission), and/or any other claim for fraud or misrepresentation?

☒ Yes

☐ No

b. If Yes, the following information must be provided (in accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8 and/or 9, and/or with pleading requirements applicable to Plaintiff's state law claims):

i. The alleged statement(s) of material fact that Plaintiff alleges was false: The warning included in the Paragard product does not sufficiently state the risks of the product, and the website for Paragard stressed the longstanding record of quality and safety assurance. Since 2010 there were 1600 reports of breakage reported to the FDA which Defendants had to be aware of. Defendants' failure to adequately communicate and report to the FDA the injuries associated with the Paragard IUD resulted in inadequate warnings which Plaintiff and her physicians relied upon.

ii. Who allegedly made the statement: Defendants

iii. To whom the statement was allegedly made: Plaintiff; Plaintiff's Medical Providers

iv. The date(s) on which the statement was allegedly made:

Constant and ongoing basis in advertising, marketing, and medical

literature

17. If Plaintiff is bringing any claim for manufacturing defect and alleging facts beyond those contained in the Master Complaint, the following information must be provided:

a. What does Plaintiff allege is the manufacturing defect in her Paragard? N/A

18. Plaintiff's demand for the relief sought if different than what is alleged in the Master Complaint: N/A

19. Jury Demand:

☒ Jury Trial is demanded as to all counts

☐ Jury Trial is NOT demanded as to any count

/s/ John J. Driscoll

Attorney(s) for Plaintiff

Address, phone number, email address and Bar information:

The Driscoll Firm LLC

IL Bar # 6276464

1311 Avenida Ponce de Leon 6th

Floor

San Juan, PR 00907

(314) 932-3232

Fax: (314) 932-3233